Paideia Academy

Newsletter September 27, 2013

Save the Date:

September 27 All school DANCE! 6:30-9:00 PM

September 30-4 DDI Assessments

October 1 PTO meeting 6:30 and WENDY'S Night!

October 7-18 Fall Break, No school

October 21 Monday Morning Meeting 8:20 AM

October 22 Board Meeting 7 PM

October 23 Report Cards available on School View

October 24 Evening Conferences

October 25 No school; Conferences 8 AM to 3 PM



From the Director

Dear Paideia Community,

I can't believe there's only one week left in the quarter! We have had a great start to the year, and I look forward to our continued progress. Next week, your children will be participating in data-driven instruction (DDI) assessments that will assess each child's understanding of concepts and skills taught during the first quarter. The results of these tests will be analyzed by teams of teachers, and re-teaching strategies and extension activities will be developed to implement during the first week of the second quarter. These assessments are only a part of our effort to create a more data-driven culture that is focused on specific questions:

- Are our students learning?
- Is each student learning what he/she most needs to learn?
- Are our expectations appropriate for all students?
- Does our classroom instruction and assessment prepare students for success on a variety of measures?

The goal of all of this work is to ensure that we are best building on the strengths and meeting the needs of each student, no matter what those are. This sort of work is not easily or quickly done, but, through consistent, collaborative efforts that incorporate research-based strategies and best practices, we can make it a reality.

You will see additional evidence of our data-driven culture in your child's first quarter report card, available on Schoolview on October 23rd. In order to provide more valuable feedback and a clearer picture of your child's strengths and challenges, we have changed our grading policies to include grades for Process, Progress, and Performance. You can see our Curriculum Guide (on website under "Current Families") to review our Lower Academy (page 14) and Upper Academy (page 32) grading policies. Our teachers are looking forward to discussing your child's process, progress, and performance, as well as strategies to support their continued improvement, in more detail during our Fall Parent Teacher Conferences on October 24th and 25th. Please keep an eye out for direct communications from your child's teacher(s) regarding setting up conference times.

Lastly, I hope to see many of you at tonight's PTO-sponsored All School Dance!! Last year's dances were a ton of fun and really brought the community together. Thank you in advance to the PTO for sponsoring this event and for providing an opportunity for the kids to spend some non-academic time together. I'm sure it's going to be a great time!

Sincerely, Marci Levy-Maguire Director

Important Updates from the Office

Are you using the current 2013 / 2014 School Calendar?

Please print the attached calendar to ensure you have the proper dates for the school year.

Please Note: As stated in the Family Handbook, no over the counter drugs are allowed without a written doctors orders. This includes COUGH DROPS. Please do not send them to school with your student.

If your student needs health care, but does not have insurance, your source for information/help is: PORTICO at 651-603-5100.



DO YOU LOVE YOUR SCHOOL?

Tell us why and you could win \$5,000 for Paideia Academy Enter now and share the love!



Used Uniform Sale / Swap!

Monday, September 30th 3:45 PM— 5:30 PM

Cash or check payable to Paideia Academy. This is a free will donation. No credit accepted.



<u>Volunteers needed!</u> Please contact Andrea Stone at <u>stonemom@frontiernet.net</u> (If you have uniforms to donate, please drop off in lobby area during the day Monday, September 30th)

YMCA SCHOOL AGE CARE

YMCA School Age Care will be available for care on October 7-11th from 6:30am-6:00pm and on October 14-16th at the same times. On the 17th and 18th there is care at other locations such as Highland Elementary, Westview Elementary. We have some fun activities planned for those days!

You can register online at ymcatwincities.org.

Please feel free to contact Hannah at <u>Hannah.craven@ymcatwincities.org</u> with any questions. Rates are \$40 a day when you register before Sept. 30th and \$50 a day after that date. Hope to see you here!!

Hannah Craven

YMCA School Age Care Site Director at Paideia Academy

PTO

Dear Paideia Community,

Our first all school community event will take place tonight, Friday, September 27th. We're going Hollywood! Come casual or dressed for the red carpet and dance the evening away - 6:30 to 9:00 pm. All members of your family are welcome - younger and older. No drop offs allowed - if your student will be staying at school and you will not you must escort your student into the building and make arrangements with another adult to chaperone your student. Your student will not be able to leave the building unescorted so be sure to park and come into the building at the end of the dance to pick up your student. We do not make these rules to make life difficult for you, but rather to keep your children safe in spite of the fact that we share a parking lot with a bowling alley and bar. Concessions will be sold at the dance, but dinner items will not be available. Please plan ahead. Attendance at the dance is free.

The next PTO Meeting will next Tuesday, October 1st. The next **Wendy's Night Community** Night is next Tuesday, October 1st. We're just helping you manage your time by giving you a take out option before you run off to the PTO Meeting! Wendy's donates 10% of all sales between 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm to Paideia Academy PTO, this includes dine in, dine out and drive through. The PTO Meeting begins at 6:30 in the large commons. Rachel Chamley will be presenting on Transportation and the Apple Valley Police Department will be speaking on Safety. Find the complete agenda on our website.

Pick up your Innisbrook products when we return from break. Please grab those following pick-up (after everyone has been dismissed you can re-enter the school through 6:00 pm.) Mark your calendars for Tuesday, October 22nd.

Conferences will be the week following break. On Thursday, October 24th our 4th and 5th Grade families will provide teachers a pot luck dinner to get them through a full day of teaching and then an evening of meetings.

High School Night will be October 29th, if you have an Upper Academy student be sure to attend. The goal is to help you make the decision of where to go after 8th grade and what makes sense for your family. The event will take place in the large commons from 6:30 to 8:00 pm.

One week before Fall Break - we're going to blink and be faced with 2 weeks of the kids home again!

Enjoy the peace and quiet while you can... Ginie Klopp PTO President



A letter from the Marketing and Enrollment Committee

There has been great interest by our new families in promoting Paideia Academy to friends and neighbors and sharing this wonderful school choice with others who may benefit from what Paideia can do for their student(s). We appreciate your enthusiasm for spreading the word about Paideia Academy!

To assist in your efforts, speak with Tonya Lundstrom about obtaining flyers that you can give to your friends and neighbors and encourage them to go to our website to learn more about the school and upcoming Information Nights.

With the exception of K and 1st grade, most grades-levels have some openings. This is due to opening up two additional seats per classroom starting this year. Enrollment will close after Friday, October 4th and not reopen until mid-January. So, if you know of families who are curious, please inform them of this limited opportunity ASAP!

Thank you.

Stephanie Abraham
Chair, Marketing and Enrollment Committee



Why Paideia?

- Fantastic teachers and staff
- An inspiring curriculum that provides students with a wellrounded educational experience
- Small class sizes
- A modified year-round schedule
- Partnership with MacPhail Music Center
- Actively involved families
- 8 years of experience successfully educating students from the southern suburbs



"I would be a completely different person if I hadn't gone to Paideia."

-Quote from a current 8th grade student-

"Paideia has been a great school for our student. An excellent culture of learning without a lot of negative distractions."

-Quote from a parent on 2012 Parent Survey-



We envision a new generation of engaged, productive global citizens.

Weekly Updates

Counselor's Corner

A Message from your Counselors: Enjoy fall break, and some time with your family!

We have had a great time meeting and getting to know your children better throughout quarter one. Whether you're going on a vacation, staying at home, going out to eat, or having a nice dinner at home, we hope you'll take the opportunity to spend some quality time with one another. We'd like to wish you a safe, relaxing and enjoyable fall break!

Counseling Highlights: We had 11 responses next week – thank you families!! As we near the end of Quarter one, we are beginning to plan our counseling services for quarter two! Please take a second to complete this quick 3 question survey by Friday September 27th!

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/56VKHXF

Helpful Hints: Kid Fitness ~ When Your Child Won't Exercise (Part 3 of 3) 12 Tips to Get Your Couch Potato Moving.

Kid Fitness Tip #9: Take a non-negotiable position.

Is going to school, brushing teeth, or wearing a seat belt a subject of debate in your home? No, because these are all activities that promote the health, safety, and well-being of your child. Well, the same approach should apply to children's fitness. It's a no-brainer: Getting regular exercise is good for your mental and physical health. Stand firm from the get-go and don't let your child argue the merits of playing computer games versus playing ball games.

Please Take Our Survey!

Kid Fitness Tip #10: Instill the idea that exercise is in.

Some kids really respond to the concept of doing something that's cool. Maybe your child wants to grind on a skateboard like Tony Hawke, deliver a karate kick a la Bruce Lee, learn the latest hip hop routine, or master the moves of capoeira. Older children, in particular, may have strong opinions about what's hip and what isn't. If it's safe and active and encourages your child to get in shape, then allow your kid to pick an activity that appeals to his sense of style.

Kid Fitness Tip #11: Put your child in charge

Let each kid take a turn choosing an active weekend pursuit of after school activity. The nature lover may vote for a hike, the adventurer may opt for a trip to the nearest jungle gym or climbing a wall. More sedentary souls may select an activity, like walking, biking, or scootering, with a destination in mind, such as a visit to the local library. Whether you wind up at a batting cage, bowling alley, or belly dancing class, they all count as children's fitness activities and your child can feel a sense of control over the situation. For younger kids, however, you may want to limit how many options they have to choose from.

Kid Fitness Tip #12: Make it fun.

Little children don't need much encouragement to stretch like a cat, run like a tiger, or jump like a kangaroo. And they'll have a blast doing it. And don't forget, grade schoolers still enjoy the opportunity for free play – inside or out – after a day spend at the desk. Stuck inside with tweens or teens on a rainy day? Then break out an action-oriented dance video game, to get your youngsters expending some energy. Younger children may enjoy just putting on some music to dance up a storm together. Whatever the activity, you want to keep the fun in kid fitness.

New and Noteworthy:

9/28 Family Health & Fitness Day 9/29 World Heart Day October is National Bullying Prevention Month 10/4 National Diversity Day 10/6-12 National Fire Prevention Week 10/7 Child Health Day 10/7-13 Mental Illness Awareness Week 10/9 SAVE (Stop America's Violence Everywhere) Day 10/13-19 Teen Read Week 10/16 World Food Day

Kindergarten

Math: DDI Assessments, Review Stations

Language Arts: Sight Word: Reviewing words from first quarter: I, a, can, see, like, the, my, and, red, blue,

yellow, green, purple.

DDI Assessments
Science: Fall weather

Social Studies: Mapping skills

Advisory: Friendship, Classroom Routines, Olweus Bullying Prevention Program. We will be continuing with

our Superflex – social thinking curriculum.

Announcements: Weekly homework is due on Friday! Next Friday is the end of quarter one. Please look for information about signing up for parent-teacher conferences in your child's blue folder on Monday. We will also be sending an e-mail home about this on Monday.

Volunteer Opportunities: Thank you to all of the volunteers who have helped us out so far this year! Copying/Stapling: We are looking for volunteers on Thursdays and Fridays to help out with copying weekly homework and weekly sight word readers. If you are available to help out, please contact Shannon Bradley at mnbradleys@gmail.com or visit Volunteer Spot to sign up. http://vols.pt/vmRPSZ

Inspirations: Happy 6th Birthday to Hannah Grace!

First Grade

Math: We will be reviewing addition sentences and taking DDI Quarter 1 math test.

Language Arts: We will read books about fall and pumpkins and create different fall projects and writing activities while we take our DDI Quarter 1 reading test.

Science: We will be finishing our unit on the ocean.

Social Studies: We will begin learning about the Incas. We will learn more about South America's geography. We will learn about the Andes Mountains.

Advisory: We will continue the Olweus Anti-Bullying Curriculum. We will work on using "I statements" for conflict resolution. We will practice using manners like "please" and "thank you".

Announcements: We will be administering the DDI Quarter 1 Tests during math and language arts so these classes will look different this week.

Volunteer Opportunities: We are looking for extra volunteers to help with DDI testing this week. Please go to http://vols.pt/dL1y1z to see the updated times and sign up for what works for you.

Inspirations: Luke, Charlie, Emilie, Rowan, Ben, Avery, and Zach S.retired clips this week! Great job, keep working hard!

Second Grade

Math: finishing unit on subtracting numbers to 1,000 (with and without regrouping), practicing basic addition and subtraction facts for speed and accuracy, taking DDI quarter 1 math assessment

Language Arts: Daily 5 rotations, Words Their Way spelling words (spelling test—Thursday), poem of the week, DDI guarter 1 reading assessment

Science: finishing unit on seasonal cycles

Social Studies: finishing short unit on Japan that was started on Friday

Advisory: star of the week (Anna—Miss Griffith's class and Nixon—Mrs. Rothstein's class), reviewing our four Olweus anti-bullying rules

Announcements: Next week we will be sending emails and letters home about signing up for conference times. Conferences are 4-8 on Thursday, October 24 and 8-3 on Friday, October 25. We hope to see all of you then!

Volunteer Opportunities: Email Wendy (2nd grade parent rep) at devriesw@yahoo.com if interested in coming in to help with spelling, copying, etc. (particularly Wednesday afternoons, Thursday mornings, and Friday early afternoons.) We would really love more help In addition, if you are still interested in donating something to our classroom, both classes would love more items for the treasure boxes and books on CD for our listen to reading centers!

Inspirations: Thank you to Connor in Ms. G's class and Trinity in Mrs. R's class for being our stars of the week last week! Also, congrats to all 2nd graders for completing their first MAP tests this past week!

Third Grade

Jensen Math: Division with regrouping in the tens and one's place and chapter 8 test (Friday) (Third Grade Group); Stem and leaf plots and outcomes (Fourth Grade Group)

Schnase/Kegel Math: Multiplication of 6's, 7's, 8's, & 9's

Language Arts: Lowercase Cursive Letters t, u & v; Daily 5 rotations; capitalization; sentence stoppers; apostrophes: commas

Science: Animal reports and wrap up games from the quarter **Social Studies:** Early human settlements, historical inventions

Advisory: Fairness, Olweus

Announcements: The library field trip will be this Thursday, October 3rd. Students will need to turn in their own library books as they will be due during break.

Our weekly homework will be due on THURSDAY, October 3rd! We will be having our end of quarter party on Friday October 4th. Thank you to everyone who will be donating supplies and/or their time. There will be no spelling this week. We will be taking a spelling retest instead. Both Reading and Math DDI assessments will be given this week. We are looking forward to seeing how much the students have learned already this year!

Volunteer Opportunities: We would love to have volunteers for our Thursday library field trip from 10:15-11:30ish. Please let your child's classroom teacher know if you are able to join us.

Inspirations: Students have had a lot of fun creating our class Worst Day of School story. Ask your child about the story we have created. We have had an outstanding start to our 3rd grade year together! Thank you to everyone for the support and encouragement that you have already given us this year!

Fourth Grade

Math: DDI Testing. IXL standards- 4.1.1.1, 4.1.1.2, 4.1.1.4, & 4.1.1.5. There are many skills under each standard- encourage your child to practice these on nights they finish their homework at school.

Language Arts: Students will continue Daily 5 rotations and reading groups.

Science: Students will be hard at work on their rock or mineral research project.

Social Studies: Social studies will be combined with science next week so that students can have lots of time to work on their science projects.

Advisory: Students will continue the Olweus curriculum by talking about anti-bullying rules.

Announcements: At home reading minutes will begin! Check your child's backpack for more information. Please allow at least 48 hours for turned in assignments to be corrected and entered into School View.

Volunteer Opportunities: We always have photocopying to do. Please let us know if you would be willing to correct homework at home!

Inspirations: The students had a great first quarter!

Fifth Grade

Math: DDI Testing Monday and Tuesday, reviewing adding and subtracting fractions the rest of the week.

Language Arts: This coming week in Language Arts, students will be doing some reviewing of concepts on finding the main idea, taking a vocabulary quiz, and taking their ungraded first quarter Data Driven Instruction test. Students' essays on an influential person will be due on Monday.

Science: Students will learn the basics about the metric system and take the quarter 1 DDI test.

Social Studies: Social Studies: Students will complete the Enlightenment/French Revolution unit. They will have a unit test on Tuesday. On Wednesday students will review for their DDI Test. The Social Studies DDI Test will be on Thursday, October 3. It will cover everything we have done this quarter (Continents, Oceans, Lakes, Explorers, Enlightenment and French Revolution).

Advisory: Students worked together on bullying scenarios and how to react to bullying.

Announcements: All late and missing work should be turned in by Wednesday, October 2. Reading Calendars are due Monday, September 30th. Students will be expected to complete October Reading Calendars during fall break.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are welcome to help with bulletin boards and organizing the Language Arts Library.

Inspirations: In Advisory, 5th graders had some awesome response on how to respond to bullies and students who feel left out.

Sixth Grade

Math: DDI Testing Monday and Tuesday, reviewing fractions, decimals, and percents the rest of the week.

Language Arts: This coming week in Language Arts, students will be working out of their Daybooks of Critical Reading and Writing, taking a vocabulary quiz, and taking their ungraded first quarter Data Driven Instruction test

Science: Students will review Q1 concepts and take the guarter 1 DDI test.

Social Studies:Students will complete the Enlightenment/French Revolution unit. They will have a unit test on Tuesday. On Wednesday students will review for their DDI Test. The Social Studies DDI Test will be on Thursday, October 3. It will cover everything we have done this quarter (Continents, Oceans, Latitude, Longitude, Time Zones, Deserts, MN Maps, MN Biomes, MN Prehistory, Enlightenment and French Revolution).

Advisory: Students worked together on bullying scenarios and how to react to bullying.

Announcements: All late and missing work should be turned in by Wednesday, October 2. Reading Calendars are due Monday, September 30th. Students will be expected to complete October Reading Calendars during fall break.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are welcome to help with bulletin boards and organizing the Language Arts Library.

Inspirations: Several sixth graders did an awesome job completing an extra credit assignment. They worked with their parents making a recipe doing mathematical operations using fractions.

Seventh Grade

Math: The students will be practicing IXL on Tuesday, taking their Quarter 1 DDI assessment on Wednesday and completing extension activities and some hands-on review activities Thursday/Friday. Some students may need additional time on Thursday to complete the DDI assessment. Please have your child practice IXL over fall break; at least 15 minutes a day would be ideal!!!

Language Arts: Students will practice test taking strategies and they will review figurative language. Tuesday, they will be taking Quarter 1 DDI assessment; some students will finish taking their DDI assessment on Wednesday. We will be reading a short story and playing Language Arts games towards the end of the week. Students will begin the October reading calendar, so students should be reading over the fall break!

Science: In 7th grade students will spend Mon – Wed reviewing Q1 curriculum by going over the study guide and playing review games. On Thursday they will be taking the science DDI.

Social Studies: This week in Social Studies we learned about influential athletes in history, including Jim Thorpe, Jesse Owens, Jackie Robinson, Billie Jean King, and Althea Gibson; we focused our class discussions on how the experiences of these athletes both reflected and influenced the eras in which they lived. In order to give context to the historic fiction novel we began, we also spent a day of class building background knowledge about The Great Depression and Dust Bowl in the U.S. in the 1930s. We started reading "The Truth About Sparrows," by Marian Hale; this is a lovely story about a twelve-year-old girl, Sadie, and her family as they migrate from Missouri to Texas looking for work during The Great Depression. To build background knowledge we watched a short video clip, took notes over a short PowerPoint slideshow and lecture, and completed a Listen-and-Draw activity using a chapter from one of our textbooks. We have an audiobook version of the novel as well as Reading Packets for most chapters. The non-graded Social studies DDI quiz is next Monday, September 30th! Also, all missing/make-up work is due Monday, September 30th, by 3:30 PM.

Advisory: The students continue to participate in weekly Olweus class meetings, leadership characteristics, and how to study for tests/assignments.

Announcements: Each student has access to Schoolview; they should be checking their grades at least 2 times per week. The September Reading Calendar begins 9/8! DDI testing will be the week of September 30th. All late/missing work is due by 3:30 pm on Monday, September 30, 2013.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers could be used on Fridays to make copies; please contact us if you are able to assist.

Inspirations: Ms. Hood's 7th grade Advisory students enjoyed an impromptu and super-fun dance party before school started this Wednesday!

Eighth Grade

Math: The students will be completing review stations (primarily from chapter 3 on Monday), practicing IXL on Tuesday, taking their Quarter 1 DDI assessment on Wednesday and completing extension activities and some hands-on review activities Thursday. Some students may need additional time on Thursday to complete the DDI assessment. Please have your child practice IXL over fall break; at least 15 minutes a day would be ideal!!!

Science: In 8th grade, students will be reviewing Q1 curriculum from Mon – Wed by looking over the study guide and playing review games/activities. The science DDI will be on Thursday.

Social Studies: This week in Social Studies we finished up correcting two open book quizzes about the geography of North America. We also spent a class period building background knowledge about Japanese Interment/Relocation camps in the U.S. and Canada during WW2 in order to begin our first piece of literature for the year—a memoir entitled "A Farewell to Manzanar," by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston. We are reading mostly in small groups while completing Written Response packets and having class discussions about the reading. The Social Studies DDI quiz (which is non-graded) will happen next Monday for 8A and next Tuesday for 8B.

Advisory: The students continue to participate in weekly Olweus class meetings, leadership characteristics, and how to study for tests/assignments.

Announcements: Each student has access to Schoolview; they should be checking their grades at least 2 times per week. The September Reading Calendar begins 9/8! DDI testing will be the week of September 30th. All late/missing work is due by 3:30 pm on Monday, September 30, 2013.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers could be used on Fridays to make copies; please contact us if you are able to assist.

Inspirations: Congratulations to Hailey, MegAnne and Scott for their great scores on the chapter 3 math test!! Congratulations to Joseph, Kira, Michael and Amelia for a job well done on the 4-1 to 4-4 math quiz!!!

<u>Music</u>

4th Grade

Standards/Unit: Artistic Foundations; Understanding Complex Rhythms

Activities: Sight reading complex rhythms in compound meter

Inspirations: 4th grade students can play paradiddles and nine-stroke rolls on the drum!

5th Grade

Standards/unit: Artistic Foundations; Music Theory Foundations

Activities: Final exam review and final exam

Inspirations: 5th grade students have used sight reading skills to learn French Folk Song!

6th Grade

Standards/unit: Artistic Process: Perform or Present; Indian Drumming Techniques

Activities: Exploring Japanese Taiko drumming and drumming unit test **Inspirations:** 6th grade students have composed original Hindustani *talas*!

7th Grade

Standards/unit: Artistic Process: Create or Make; Scoring & Orchestration **Activities:** Sharing final scoring projects and preparing for composition

Inspirations: 7th grade students have chosen new instruments for three Bach chorales and transposed them!

8th Grade

Standards/unit: Artistic Process: Create or Make; Scoring & Orchestration **Activities:** Sharing final scoring projects and preparing for composition

Inspirations: 8th grade students have chosen new instruments for three Bach chorales and transposed them!

<u>Art</u>

Standards/unit:

Upper: Artistic Process: Respond or Critique

Artistic Process: Create or Make

Lower: Artistic Foundations

Artistic Process: Create or Make Artistic Process: Respond or Critique

Activities:

Upper: Drawing abstract animal combinations

Pointillism Study

Final architecture drawing and beginning zentangles

Lower: Shoe texture rubbings: textures in our world

Painting self-portraits: choosing hair and skin colors

Weaving: adding weft strings, turning corners Wheel game: talking about significant artworks

Inspirations:

Upper: Literature: Scroobious Pip (poem)

Art History: Seurat, Pointillism "New" Technique: Zentangle

#hashtag- looking at current art and responding

Lower: Literature: All the Colors of the Earth by Sheila Hamanaka

History: Weavings of the Navajo



Our Vision

We envision a new generation of engaged, productive global citizens.

Our Mission

The Mission of Paideia Academy is to challenge and inspire learners by providing a rigorous, content-rich, classical education incorporating languages, music, and the arts while nurturing positive character development.